

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 39 have been examined. Claims 1 – 26, 31, 32, 38, and 39 are allowed; Claim 36 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,563,977 (“Chen”); Claims 27 – 29 and 33 – 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Chen in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,362,919 (“Flanders”); and Claims 30 and 37 have been identified as allowable except for their dependence from rejected base claims.

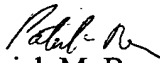
Claims 30 and 37 have been canceled and their limitations respectively incorporated into independent Claims 27 and 36. In view of the indicated allowability of Claims 30 and 37, it is thus believed that amended Claims 27 and 36 are now in condition for allowance. Claims 33 – 35 have been canceled.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,


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